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Letter dated 14 July 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

It gives me great pleasure to enclose herewith for your information, and through you to members of the Security Council, the agreed outcomes of the Tripartite Committee meeting, comprising the Government of the Sudan, the African Union and the United Nations, held in Khartoum on 12 July 2009 (see annex). The outcomes demonstrate the strong commitment of the Government of the Sudan to the full deployment of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hassan Hamid **Hassan**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 14 July 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Government of the Sudan, African Union and United Nations Tripartite Committee on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

12 July 2009, Khartoum

Agreed outcomes

1. On 12 July 2009, representatives from the Government of the Sudan, the African Union, the United Nations and the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) met in Khartoum to conduct the sixth Tripartite Coordination Mechanism meeting on UNAMID.

2. The Government of the Sudan representation included officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Defence, National Security and Civil Aviation and was led by Dr. Mutrif Siddiq, Under-Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The African Union Commission delegation was led by Mr. Ramtane Lamamra, Commissioner for Peace and Security. The United Nations delegation was led by Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, Ms. Susana Malcorra. The UNAMID delegation was led by the African Union/United Nations Joint Special Representative, Mr. Rodolphe Adada.

3. UNAMID conducted a state-of-deployment briefing, providing the Government of the Sudan, the African Union and the United Nations with an update on the current deployment and highlighting key milestones to occur through year's end. Since the last Tripartite Coordination Mechanism meeting on UNAMID deployment, held on 31 March, an increase of 2 per cent was registered on the ground, constituting 69 per cent deployment of UNAMID to date. UNAMID reported that a target of 97 per cent deployment by December 2009 remained the aim, noting that this was an ambitious goal as commitments for full force generation and enabling capacities were still outstanding. Dr. Mutrif stated that the Government of the Sudan would increase its efforts to support the expedited deployment of UNAMID with a view to facilitating the reaching of full mission strength.

4. The following aspects were discussed in connection with the review of the implementation of agreed outcomes of the last Tripartite Committee meeting:

(a) Air operations: Location of the Ethiopian tactical helicopter unit: Dr. Mutrif noted that technical discussions were ongoing. The Government of the Sudan took note of the reiterated request of UNAMID to secure the necessary co-location of the approximately 180 personnel responsible for operating, servicing and securing Ethiopian tactical helicopters. While requesting UNAMID to provide further information to the civil aviation authorities, Dr. Mutrif assured participants that a compromise solution would be found and provided to UNAMID in a timely fashion to ensure operational priorities, including the co-location of pilots, flight crews and necessary staff, in the required time frame to enable construction prior to the arrival of the Ethiopian tactical helicopter unit scheduled for October 2009. Ms. Malcorra underscored the importance of expediting the preparations for the

receipt of this capacity and reiterated the option of co-locating the Ethiopian tactical helicopter unit and related enablers at the Nyala super-camp. Dr. Mutrif stated that the Government of the Sudan would analyse all options specified during the Tripartite Mechanism meetings and revert accordingly;

(b) Visas: The Government of the Sudan has taken concerted measures to clear a number of outstanding visa requests. UNAMID noted tremendous progress made in the recent weeks in clearing visa backlogs. Dr. Mutrif assured participants that the Government of the Sudan has taken steps towards facilitating the processing of visas for UNAMID personnel. The Government of the Sudan has established an office dedicated to processing UNAMID visa applications;

(c) Local procurement capacity: UNAMID reported that since the last Tripartite Meeting, $179.5 million had been awarded to Sudanese vendors. Over 900 Sudanese vendors are currently registered with UNAMID. Dr. Mutrif stated that this was an encouraging development and an important measure to foster a policy of partnership between the Sudanese people and UNAMID. Ms. Malcorra added that the United Nations had undertaken outreach efforts in Khartoum as well as in Nyala, El Geneina and El Fasher to support the increased registration of local contractors to meet United Nations requirements. This approach constitutes a sustained policy for the future;

(d) National staff:

(i) UNAMID currently employs 2,259 staff representing 65 per cent of the total authorized national posts. Mr. Adada clarified that as of 12 July, national staff represented two thirds of the total civilian staff in UNAMID;

(ii) UNAMID noted that there were over 3,000 individual contractors working for the mission. Dr. Mutrif remarked on a recent incident resulting in damage to a radio antenna which involved a individual contractor, and requested additional coordination between UNAMID and the Government of the Sudan in the hiring process. With respect to the incident cited, Ms. Malcorra stated that an investigation would take place to address shared United Nations/UNAMID and Government of the Sudan concerns;

(e) Police:

(i) The UNAMID Police Commissioner reported that 1,421 national police personnel had received training and that the working relationship with the Government of the Sudan throughout Darfur was very good. Training has been conducted in community policing, sexual/gender-based violence, human rights, crime investigations, crime scene management and detention and treatment of suspects. Training of trainers has also commenced. Dr. Mutrif expressed his appreciation for the relations between UNAMID and the Sudanese police, particularly with respect to capacity-building and training programmes;

(ii) The Police Commissioner raised difficulties regarding the construction of community policing centres in Sector West. In this connection, Dr. Mutrif assured participants that efforts would be undertaken by the Government of the Sudan to facilitate the construction of the Community Policing Centre in Sector West. In response, UNAMID reiterated its commitment to facilitate the construction of training centres for police facilities;

(iii) Government of the Sudan-police vehicle maintenance: Both parties concurred that vehicle maintenance would proceed as agreed and as per the request of the Government of the Sudan. UNAMID specified that although some vehicles are beyond repair, efforts would focus on servicing reparable vehicles as agreed and that the mission would aim to initiate the repair programme prior to the next Tripartite Committee meeting;

(iv) With respect to the commitment of UNAMID to lend vehicles to Sudanese police during UNAMID convoy protection, the mission will revert to the Government of the Sudan with a plan of action;

(f) Activation of radio-frequency: Dr. Mutrif informed participants that as agreed at the fourth Tripartite Committee meeting (held on 18 February 2009), the Government of the Sudan has allocated broadcasting hours using both Darfur radio stations and Al-Salam radio broadcasting facilities to provide FM and MW wave capabilities for a number of hours per day. This constitutes a bridging solution. UNAMID expressed its gratitude for this interim solution and for the commitment of the Government of the Sudan to its expedited implementation, while recalling the need to finalize the issuance of the broadcasting licences in accordance with the status-of-forces agreement;

(g) Water: In response to Dr. Mutrif's call to ensure that water supplies are shared with local communities in close proximity to UNAMID infrastructure, the United Nations representatives noted that the principle of seeking water has embedded the principle of sharing with local communities. Though as noted by Dr. Mutrif, the mandate to provide water does not rest with UNAMID, the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations agreed that current efforts for ensuring the principle of water-sharing with local communities are working and will remain a staple of water policy in Darfur;

(h) Customs clearances; The Government of the Sudan confirmed that customs clearances for vehicles and equipment and demurrage charges at Port Sudan had been fully addressed. Ms. Malcorra expressed gratitude for resolving this issue, which underpins the expedited deployment of the mission, and noted that it would take some time to move the equipment and vehicles from the port.

5. Dr. Mutrif mentioned that certain unfortunate events involving a United Nations contractor that resulted in contaminated food appearing in the local market damaged the reputation of the mission. In this connection, the Government of the Sudan requests UNAMID to take appropriate action against the contractor.

6. In concluding the meeting, the Government, African Union and United Nations delegations agreed that the detailed discussions were evidence of the senior-level engagement and commitment that underpins the Tripartite Mechanism, which is focused on achieving the full deployment of UNAMID. All parties acknowledged the contributions of the UNAMID Force Commander and thanked him for his work. The Force Commander expressed his gratitude to all parties, and in particular recognized the Ministries of Defence, Interior, Foreign Affairs and others for their support in advancing the mandate of UNAMID and its commitment to serve the people of Darfur. Commissioner Lamamra highlighted the need for a forward-looking framework to fully enable strategic planning during the next phase of mission deployment.

7. In concluding the meeting, all parties agreed that the next Tripartite Meeting would be scheduled in September on the periphery of the General Assembly in New York. The agenda will be developed in advance by UNAMID as per standard procedure.

(*Signed*) Mutrif **Siddiq**
For the Government of the Sudan

(*Signed*) Ramtane **Lamamra**
Commissioner
For the African Union

(*Signed*) Susana **Malcorra**
Under-Secretary-General, Department of Field Support
For the United Nations